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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: ABELS et al.

Serial No

: 10/632,017

Filed

: July 31, 2003

For

: BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT

Art Unit

: 3679

Examiner

: Ernesto Garcia

Dated

: March 7, 2006

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Final rejection dated December 7, 2005, please consider the remark

as follows: